

## SOMONAUK DEGENERATE IS GIVEN 15 YEARS SENTENCE

JOHN SCHIRADELLE PLAYS  
IMPORTANT ROLE IN  
OWN CONVICTION

### GIRL IS "EXONERATED"

UNNATURAL STEP-FATHER TRIES  
TO PUT BLAME UPON GIRL, BUT  
ATTEMPT WAS MISERABLE  
FAILURE—CASE RECORD FOR  
BREVITY.

John Schiradelly, convicted Somonauk degenerate, besides being La Salle county's most conspicuous perversity, is a pervert without a semblance of manhood in his entire make-up. The jury who decided his fate said he must serve fifteen years in the Joliet penitentiary for assaulting Martha, his seventeen years' old step-daughter, after one of the most revolting hearings ever held in Judge Eldredge's tribunal.

Opening at 1:30 yesterday afternoon the case came to a close at 5:15. Simmered down to facts pertinent to the trial it was Martha's word against her unnatural guardian—and the jury did just as any other twelve men in Illinois would have done. They believed the girl and refused to place any credence upon the disgusting recitation in which Schiradelly charged his accuser with being a common prostitute. They believed Martha with such firmness that in their first ballot the jurors were all agreed on Schiradelly's guilt. The term of servitude on the first try ranged from seven to twenty-five years and from then on seventeen more attempts were made to fix the extent of punishment to be meted out to the defendant, until the twelve united upon fifteen years as a suitable period in which to ponder over the evil of his ways.

Schiradelly's brazen attempt to vent his spleen upon the girl failed in its effort. The reaction upon the defendant was doubled when he recounted stories of his alleged adventures with Martha. The rebound was all his way when the jurors retired to decide what to do with one of their fellows of such mental composition. They were unanimously determined that Schiradelly's performance on the witness stand marked him as a man unfit to mingle in respectable society. When Judge Eldredge was called upon to pass judgment on the defendant he seemed glad to wash his hands of the whole affair and proved himself one of the strongest men in the county when with one waive of his hand he sent John to Joliet for fifteen long, weary years.

Schiradelly took his punishment with as good grace as one of his peevish brains could. He offered no protest and on his way to jail informed court bailiffs that as long as he had to go he wanted to start right away and have it done with. His counsels, when the jury reported this morning, moved for a new trial and this was denied by the judge. Immediately after refusing this request the court ordered Schiradelly to arise and be informed of the penalty inflicted upon him. By good behavior he can come out of the prison in eight years and nine months, the "good time" earned in this manner amounting to six years and three months.

To the deputies who escorted him to the courtroom at noon before his trial opened Schiradelly voiced his certainty of freedom on the strength of a dream he had had the night before. "I saw before me," he said, "a large board that extended clear across the city. The man who serves the meals stood behind it and all of a sudden the board disappeared and I walked from jail a free man." Today he is putting no stock in dreams and has joined the vast army of non-believers.

Others testify. Ed Pecken followed Miss Schiradelly to the stand. The state endeavored to bring into the case the evidence of Schiradelly's mistreatment of his family one night in September, when he drove them from the house. Judge Eldredge held that the evidence had not immediate bearing on the trial. John Rupp was the first witness for the defense. He merely testified that Schiradelly called at his home on the afternoon of October 22 and asked him for a chew of tobacco. Charles Rohrer, of Northville, testified that he met the defendant on the road on the afternoon of October 22.

George Gulta, who was employed at the Schiradelly home, testified that the girl came home with her step-father on the afternoon of October 22. He stated that she was not crying. He

## ANNOUNCE SERVICE FOR INSTALLATION

REV. CARL STACKMAN TO BE  
FORMALLY ELECTED AS LEADER  
OF THE CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH—REV. DAY TO PREACH.

On Monday afternoon and evening of February 13th will be held the services attending the installation of the Rev. Carl Stackman as pastor of the First Congregational church of this city. This service is in the hands of the church council, composed of the pastor and one lay delegate from each of the churches of the Fox River Association of Congregational churches.

The members of the local church have been making preparation for this interesting event for some time and these services will be of considerable interest to the general public. In the evening the Rev. Wm. Horace Day, U. C. of Los Angeles, Cal., will preach the installation sermon. Dr. Day, who is a former Ottawa boy, is one of the great preachers of the country, and every seat in the church should be occupied in the evening to hear him.

Members of all the various churches of the city are cordially invited to attend the services.

Following is the program:

Afternoon.

3:30—Assembly and organization of the council.

Presentation of credentials and statement of religious beliefs—Rev. Carl Stackman.

Vote upon installation—The council.

6:00—Supper to visiting delegates and church officers.

Evening.

7:30—Organ voluntary—Mrs. C. A. Caten.

Prayer—The choir.

Invocation—Moderator of council.

Anthem, "Send Out the Light"—Girls' choir.

Reading of minutes of afternoon session—Scribe.

Hymn—Congregation.

Sermon—Rev. Wm. Horace Day, D. D.

Violin solo—Miss Evelyn Barry.

Prayer of installation—Rev. W. H. Spence, Hinsdale.

Charge to the people—Rev. Walter Spence.

Charge to the pastor—Rev. H. E. Peabody, Chicago.

Solo—Miss Vera Ham, (Cello obligato, Mr. Herbert Weiss).

Right hand of fellowship—Rev. Walter Spence, Peru.

Welcome from the city churches—Rev. G. W. Chessman.

Prayer and benediction—The pastor.

Recessional hymn—The choir.

Kaiser Blames  
Foes for Not  
Ending Strife

BERLIN, Feb. 15.—Emperor William, in the first interview he has given since the war began, predicts that the submarine blockade will hit England harder than anything else since the conflict broke out.

The interview, which was given out in Vienna to the Austrian poet and playwright, Hans Mueller, has just been received here.

In part Mueller says:

"It is a source of gratification and confidence to hear Kaiser Wilhelm speak about the sharpest of all our weapons, the new submarine war, whose results, military, political and psychological, he already appraises as considerable."

"In the course of his talk the Kaiser exclaimed:

"Look to the European neutrals. Read the Swedish answer, this document, written as if for all eternity, how they like to estimate our strength, but likewise our will to peace. For the first time, in a certain sense, the declared will of the small neutral states stands against the Anglo-Saxon world, and Napoleon's continental blockade, from a phantom, is becoming a reality, one which will hit England harder than everything else heretofore."

After speaking of the cordial spirit existing between the Germans and Austro-Hungarians, the Kaiser declared:

"The goal is set and things are going ahead."

Asked about his letter to the chancellor suggesting that a peace proposal be made the Emperor was quoted as saying:

"This letter had to be written. This step had to be taken. For now all the world knows who those are who impose continued misery on humanity."

## NAVAL MILITIAMEN WILL FILL IN VACANT PLACES IN OUR WARSHIPS



NAVAL MILITIA IS BUSY THESE DAYS

Naval officers asserted that the naval militia, organized in twenty-two states, the District of Columbia and Hawaii, with a personnel of 8,597, would be called into service immediately upon the outbreak of war. The vessels of the Atlantic fleet are short of both officers and men, and additional drafts of officers and men will be given the fleets to bring their complements up to full war strength. The other naval vessels heretofore in reserve will be placed in commission.

In the past few days recruiting for the naval militia has been stimulated by the acute crisis with Germany, and a large number of trained men who formerly served in the navy are expected to return to the service. The navy department has

kept a card index of their names, addresses, physical condition, qualifications, former service in the navy and all other data needed by the department. The two pictures show the removal of a four inch gun from the Granite State, the obsolete vessel used as a headquarters by the New York naval militia, and application of recruits. The gun was taken to the New York navy yard for defensive purposes.

Ready for No. 2 District.

Not only are they ready and willing to push the work in the business district but announce that as soon as the city passes on the outlying district the work will be started. This advice was given out to a Free Trader-Journal reporter by Superintendent L. W. Hess after a telephone communication with H. E. Chubbuck in Peoria.

Conduits placed for the city will be done so at absolute cost by the Northern Illinois Light & Traction Co.

The local plant must be given the credit for being the first of the public utilities companies to comply with the request of the city council. As yet no positive word has been received from the Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies. Information from the United Telephone company and the Western Union Telegraph company has been to the effect that they are now working on their plans. The N. I. L. & T. Co. were first to begin actual operations.

A delay, however, in the wires for the trolley lines is anticipated, owing to the enormous cost of copper at this time on account of the European war.

The Northern Illinois Light & Traction Co., however, will have their work completed in ample time so as by no means to interfere with paving in the loop section.

Traveling on rough seas was tame compared to the session of the city council this morning, when the conduit ordinance for the business section was accepted by the commissioners by a vote of 3 to 2. There was much wrangling when the measure passed.

The plans of the Northern Illinois Light & Traction Co. were laid upon the table at the city hall. Superintendent Charles Hahn was present ready to answer all questions of the lawmakers.

Meagher Talks.

"As I understand the plans, Mr. Hahn, you do not propose to build conduits to take care of your wires on West Main street," said Mr. Meagher.

"We have a few customers on that street who are consuming a small amount of power and we intended to place our wires in the alley," was the reply.

This question brought out the advice of City Attorney Taylor Strauss, who cited that in his opinion the wires could be placed in the alley and still conform with the ordinance.

"Then what was the idea of having an ordinance passed compelling the companies to build conduits," said Commissioner Meagher.

Commissioner Helffrich then called the attention of the council to the fact no communication had been received relative to what the company would do with the conduit in District No. 2. Commissioner Helffrich made a motion that a communication be sent to the Northern Illinois Light & Traction company asking for an immediate reply as to the conduits in the second district. The motion lost by a three to two vote, being supported only by Meagher and Helffrich.

Mayor Bradford in explaining his attitude on the subject stated that the city had a right to appeal to the Public Utilities in the event the utility companies did not live up to the ordinance as voted on by the people. He recommended the acceptance of the Northern Illinois Light & Traction company's plan so as not to delay the pavement. Upon a motion of Commissioner Palmer a vote was taken and won by three to two. Helffrich and Meagher voted against the measure.

LOWDEN CODE BILL WINS BY BIG VOTE.

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